Vol. III. Numb. 14.

The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amusements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are Added the most

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domestick.

Perform'd by some of the Society of GENTLEMEN, that were Concern'd in the First VOLUME.

From Wednesday April 26th. to Friday April 28th. 1710.

Q. GENTLEMEN, Josephus *the* Jewish *Historian and I think the* Septuagint, *agree that* Solomon *Reigned* 80 *Years. But in the* Hebrew *Text*, Kings, 11. 42. *and* 2 Chron. 9. 30. *It is said he Ruled* 40 *Years only. Pray, Reconcile this Difference.*

A. The Querist mistakes, for the *Septuagint* and *Hebrew* Text agree that he Reigned 40 Years. There are many other Instances wherein *Josephus* neither agrees with the *Hebrew* nor LXX Collected by Dr. *Willes* in his Dissertation upon the Chronology of *Josephus* prefixed to *Lestrange's* English Translation of that Author's Works. The Reason of this Difference is partly that the Copies of *Josephus* have been in several Places Altered and Corrupted, as is plain from the Quotations of the Fathers out of him in many Instances differing from the Readings of the Present Copies of his Works. And partly that *Josephus* did in the Compiling of his History sometimes actually recede from the *Hebrew* and *Septuagint*, where he saw good Reason for it, as it is probable he did in this particular Place; because *Theodoret* and *Procopius* in their Notes upon 1 *Kings* 9. 37. agree with *Josephus* against the *Hebrew* and the LXX that *Solomon* Reigned 80 Years. Every one knows that the Copies both of the *Hebrew* and LXX had been Corrupted, and that there were various Readings of both even in those Primitive Times.

Q. Gentlemen, *Whether the Wife disposing of the Goods of the Husband without his Consent is not Guilty of Theft? And whether upon Account of Damages done by the Wife, the Husband may not Lawfully deduct from her Jointure or Dowry (tho' confirmed to her at her Marriage Contract) as much as will Answer those Damages done both to himself and Posterity?*

A. By Marriage all the Power of the Wife is Transferred to the Husband, so that no Contracts which she makes without his Consent are valid. But in Consideration of this loss of her Power, tho' she Imbezels or Wasts the Estate of her Husband, she is not Guilty of Theft, neither is she Answerable to him for the Damages done. Indeed there are many Exceptions to these General Maxims, which the Querist for his more particular Satisfaction may see in a late Book called *Baron and Feme*, being a Treatise of the Common Law concerning Husbands and Wives. Besides, this being a Question in Law is Foreign to our Design.

Q. Gentlemen, *When the Duke of* Alva *was at* Brussels, *about the beginning of the Troubles in the* Netherlands, *a Provost Marshal in his Army came to the Tent of one Captain* Bolea, *an Intimate Friend of his, and brought a Confessor, and an Executioner with him, and told the Captain he was come to Execute the Duke's Command. At which he started up, and, with his Hair standing an end, asked wherein he had Offended the Duke. The Provost Answer'd, I am not come to Expostulate the Business with you, but to Execute my Commission. In short, the Captain made his Confession, and the Hangman was going to put the Halter about his Neck, but the Provost threw it away, and in a Merry manner said, he did it only to try his Courage, whereupon Captain* Bolea, *with a Ghastly Countenance, told him, he had done him a very ill Office, and by next Morning his Hair, tho' a Young Man, was turned Grey to the Admiration of all that saw him.*

Now, Gentlemen, *I would enquire of you, the Cause, and Reason, of this strange and sudden Alteration.*

A. It is a common and true Observation, that great Grief or too intense Thoughtfulness hasten the coming of Grey Hairs. Now it is certain that the immediate Cause of Grey Hairs is the Dryness of the Body. Their Colours at first depend upon the different Temperament and Quality of the Humours that nourish them, and so long as they continue thus nourish'd they are Pellucid: But as soon as that Nourishment is withdrawn, so that they begin to be dry and hard, they are then left to their Natural Colour, which is a Pale White or Grey. For

Hair is of the same Nature with Horn, which being Burnt in the Fire grows White and looses it's Transparency if it had any before. What can we say then but that as the Body is Dried up by a long Course of Years Naturally, so some violent Passions of the Mind have that Effect upon the Humours of the Body, as to cause this Dryness and consequently Grey Hairs more suddenly? But in what manner the Passions of the Mind work this effect cannot be Satisfactorily explained. However since the true ultimate Causes of all the Surprising effects of this kind have not by any searches of human Reason been yet found out in any one Instance of them, we shall not with some rashly reject such Accounts as Fabulous (for who can tell what effects unknown Causes may produce?) But shall place them in the Class of the unaccountable Phænomena of Nature.

Q. Highly Esteemed Gentlemen, *Having long entertained an extraordinary and just regard for the Determinations and Transactions of the* British Apollo, *I am much surprized to find you affirm as you do* N°99 *that it is a very absurd Question to demand what is the Product of one Sum or mixed Number (I mean a Sum of divers Denominations) if multiplyed by the same Sum; and that you there assert it is palpable Nonsense to multiply one Sum of Money by another, whereas you may observe it to be feasible both in the Theory and daily Practice, and according to my small skill in Arithmetick and the Doctrine of Fractions, any Sums or Fractions (if duly prepared) may be truly multiplied by the same or other Sums or Fractions,* &c.

A. The Querist we hope will pardon us for not inserting his whole Letter, which was three Pages of a Sheet close writ. In the two last of which he labours to convince us of a Mistake in *Num.* 2. *Vol.* 3. where we make the Product of $7\frac{1}{4}$ by $6\frac{1}{2}$ to be $46\frac{1}{8}$ which indeed ought to have been $47\frac{1}{8}$; but whether this mistake was ours or the Printers we cannot now tell; any one might see it ought to be imputed to hast and not to our Ignorance. But we still insist upon our Assertion that it is palpable Nonsense to multiply one Sum of Money by another. For Multiplication in its self is nothing else but a manifold Addition; but because *Geometers* make use of the Phrase of multiplying a Line by a Line, or a Line by a Superficies, those that are ignorant of their Principles and of the Analogy between Arithmetick and Geometry, think they may use the same Liberty of giving an extrinsick Denomination to both the Factors in any other Instance, as particularly of multiplying 5 Shillings by 5 Shillings, or 5 Trees or Stones by 5 other Trees or Stones, which at first view is Nonsense in Terms and impossible in Nature. What encourages them in this mistake is that they find the Product in such Multiplications to be the same as if they had worked with abstracted numbers; whereas in this Case the Product ought not to be considered as an abstracted Number of Unites, but as the Generation of a new Species of Quantity: for as the Multiplication of a Line by a Line is the Generation of a Superficies, or of a Superficies by a Line is the Generation of a Solid, so shou'd the Multiplication of a Solid by a Solid be in like manner the Generation of a new Quantity, of which we can have no Conception. But if the Querist thinks himself more accute, let him shew us how much Money or what Species of Quantity is produced by the Multiplication of one Shilling by one Shilling. For a Line of a Foot Length by another of the same Dimension produces a Superficies, which will be a Foot Square; and likewise a Line of a Foot Length by a Superficies of a Foot Square produces a Cubical Foot; but Geometry goes no further, nor has Nature any more than three Species of Quantity, a Line, a Superficies and a Solid: And as for a Biquadrate, Surdesolid, Bicube and all the other Powers of Numbers, they are only Terms analogically used and applied by *Algebrists*, but have no Geometrical Quantities answering to them, for they denote no local Extension, and therefore can be no Objection to what we assert. The *Mathematical Reader* will scarce pardon us in this Prolixity upon so plain a Subject. But we do it to prevent our being troubled so often as we are with the absurd Question of Multiplying one Sum of Money by another. And if our vulgar Readers are not satisfied with our Authority upon this Point, let them read Pag. 67 and 68th of Dr. *Wells's Arithmetica numerosa & speciosa*, where he asserts the same thing. If the Querist has any thing to reply to this, we shall be glad to see it.

Q. Apollo, *I will tell you a Truth if I am able, at least I am sure I can tell thee another Truth, which is that I am scarce able to tell thee any thing, for I am, as they say, a little overtaken, and my Brains are in a mist, so I fancy I look a little like thee, through a mist in a Winter's Morning, Painted all in Gules and so forth. But now I remember, that I have lost my Memory, for I design'd to have told you in the first Place, that last Night I Pick'd up a Punk. I can't say she was Young or Handsome, or Cleanly, or Sound, but that's all one, a Punk I look'd for, and a Punk I met with. Very good——and so I carry'd her to the* Rose-Tavern, *where at this Instant (being four a Clock in the Morning) I am Pawning my Sword for the Reckoning. For you must understand, that this very Individual Punk, has pick'd* 15 Guineas *out of my Pocket, and shear'd off with it. And tho' I am clear'd of them, I fear it will cost me* 15 *more, before I get clear of the Punk. Now if you can inform me, how to recover my* 15 Guineas, *and will help me to an Honest* Surgeon, *I promise thee in the Presence of two Drawers, now attending, that I will Marry thy Sister* Phæbe, *and Jointure her in an huge old Barn, for all her Retinue of Bats and Owls to rest in, when they are off of Duty. So Honest Brother* Ruby Face, *Good Morrow t'ye.*

SAM. SALAMANDER.

A. Sam. we must tell thee, thy Question is of a nice Nature and perplexes us with much Ambiguity in reference to our Discussion of it. That your Picking up your Punk fully Merits all the Consequence, we believe your Present Elevation itself, has not the assurance to deny, so that to relieve you, may be term'd an Obstruction of Justice: Nor is it equal on the other Hand, that the Punk shou'd be favour'd with Impunity. But to act as justly as we can, in so doubtful a Matter, we will Propose this. *viz.* That on Condition you will Oblige yourself to give the 15 *Guineas* (when Recover'd) to Charitable Uses, and not suffer a Cure, till your Mortification has wrought a true Compunction in you, for your Crimes, we will help you what we can. As for your Proposals of Marriage with our Sister *Phæbe*, your Inclinations are so Heterogeneous to her Nature, that the Product must be a Race of Monsters; nay how can a *Salamander* subsist, on her Cold Influences. And your Barn may be reserv'd for more proper Uses, for Entertaining all your Brother Owls, who Hoot and Revel by Night, when no Vacancy is left for them in the Compter and Round-Houses about Town. By this time we suppose you have swallowed a few Boles, and are preparing for the Powd'ring Tub, the Sufferings of which, we hope will prepare you for the Reception of our Advice; and so we bid you, Good Den.

POEMS.

POEMS.

To the OXFORD Gentlemen.

Q. I *Hearing ye were pretty Fellows,* Vid.
Sent ye a Query 'bout my Bellows, N°. 8.
Where your Wise Schollar-ship's do tell-us, Vol. 3.
O Dreadful!

Good Manners and the like I've wanted,
And with foul Similes ye Canted,
Yet notwithstanding nothing Daunted;
I Ned will

Once more against ye both Adventure,
And with strong Lines the List I enter,
But hold——one thing I needs must hint here,
So pass on;

Ye seem to strut like Crow in Gutter,
And as ye stalk along ye Mutter,
And say that I no Sense can Utter,
Alas Don.

I've long been Querist of APOLLO's
And shall two new come prating Fellows,
With Insolence pretend to tell-us,
What Sense is.

I Fancy ye came away from Colledge,
But very poorly stor'd with Knowlege,
But that your Wit hath but a Dull-edge;
No Fancy is.

The Query was not good I knew, Sir,
Yet good enough I thought for you, Sir,
But know, a better I can shew, Sir,
I've store too:

And then suppose it did Contain,
(Of not best Manners) half a Grain;
Weigh th' Answer there's as much again,
And more too.

I've by his Godship *more than once is,*
Been Prais'd, when ye were Oxford *Dunces,*
And must ye now like Squib, all Bounce is,
Come Cracking!

Though (as before) I now come Mask'd too,
What then——do you mind what is Ask'd you,
To be abusive none hath Task'd you,
You Jack-in.

Now Query I must look about for;
But if I you one can't find out for,
You'll something have to make a rout for,
And jangle:

But now I've got one at Tongue's tip,
Then lay fast hold on't least it slip,
And try if it you can Unrip,
And Untangle.

Doubt not the Truth of what I tell, Sir,
If when in Hand I Ring a Bell, Sir,
I Touch it, it wont Sound so well, Sir;
Cause Write me.

F——t Answer now, but do't with Care,
For if ye're loose with change of Fare,
Ye may before ye are aware,
B——te ye.

Now, Sirs, *unless thro' Town ye Hollow*
(As Victors) ye no more I'll follow,
But Write (Ut Olim) *to* APOLLO.
Good Night t'ye.

Edw. H——inson, *alias,* Ned Houtchsen.

A. Thus *Wind* in *Hypochondria* pent,
Rumbles about for want of vent,
'Till it is down or upwards sent,
At last, Sir,

When the loud Hurricane is over,
We find the Cause of all the Pother
(At least all that we can Discover)
A Blast, Sir.

So you've in strong Convulsions been,
And doubtless oft did Frown and Grin,
E'er you cou'd get this Question in,
To task us;

And now you think our Skill you've try'd,
And Pos'd us too (but there you Ly'd)
We'll Answer this and all beside,
You ask us.

You boast you've Manners more than we,
Which tho' that may not Obvious be,
We'll grant their worth of high'r degree,
If any.

Because you bear 'em not about,
And so can never wear 'em out,
Therefore as long, they'll last, 'thout doubt,
As many.

You say *Apollo's* Praise you've had;
So 've others too who 're full as bad,
For sometimes he will Praise like Mad,
To Tickle:

Then get his Head behind a Cloud,
And Smile, and often Laugh aloud,
To see the Long-Ear'd, Banter'd Crowd,
In Pickle.

Now we'll give Answer to the whole,
Why Bell when touch'd, does cease to Toll,
(That Emblem of your Jobbernole)
Most true too.

Since 'tis in Art and Nature found,
That Empty things give greatest Sound,
And those want Sense, with Words abound,
As you do.

So

So much for that——now to proceed,
Since *Sounds* are by the Learn'd agreed,
From *Trem'lous Motions* (when they're freed)
To rise, Sir,

They only are the *Propagation*,
O'th' *Pulse* of *Air* to different Station,
(Tho' you may be by this Narration,
No Wiser.)

Yet 'tis Confirm'd by th' Trembling, found
More Great in Bodies all around,
Excited by a *Stronger Sound*;
And so, Sir.

The *Trem'lous Motion* being by
The Hand Obstructed, Instantly
The Sound must Cease; and so *Good by*,
NED POSER.

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SIR,

THE Letters from Turin, April, 17th. Advise, That the Troops of his Royal Highness are to be both Reveiwed in a few Days, which are, as 'tis said, Compleat; That all the Horses brought from Germany for Remounting his Cavalry are Arriv'd and are to be distributed among his Respectve Regiments, so that they are now actually Remounted; that the Advices from the Frontiers of Dauphins are, that the French begin to be in Motion towards their Respective Rendezvous, and boast, that they have taken such Measures as to prevent the Allies from Penetrating into the Dutchy of Savoy, as they did the last Campain; That they have Detatch'd 4 Batallions from thence for the Netherlands, but expect 4 others from Dauphine; and they give out, that their Troops are Compleat; but, 'tis certain, according to the best Advices, they want a great Number of Men, and that their Soldiers are in a very bad Condition. 'Tis Advised from Frankfort, April 27th. That the French have Received a great Convoy of Corn from Lorrain, and are in Expectation of another with a great Sum of Money from Paris to pay part of the Arrears due to the Troops; That the Forces of the Empire continue to Arrive in the Lines, and 'tis hop'd if the Regiments promised by the Emperor to the Circles, come there in time the Enemy will be Obiged to stand upon the Defensive, instead of making an Irruption into Swabia, as they Threatned, that the Surprising Progress of the Arms of the Allies in the Netherlands has broken all their Measures, insomuch that severel Regiments which are design'd to act on the Upper Rhine are ordered to March for Valenciennes with all possible Speed. The Advices for Brussels, May 2d. are, that Monsieur des Roques, who is to have the Cheif Direction in the Siege of Doway, Arrived there the 30th. past in the Morning with Monsieur le Brun another Ingeneer, and the Day General Cadagon with some other Persons of Note, to take a Narrow view of the Place, and 'tis resolv'd, the Main Attack shall be between the Gates of Doire and Crecin, and that 50 Ingineers Arrived the same Day in the Army from Holland. Which is all from Yours, *&c.*

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